PROPOSED STATE OF ILLINOIS RULES AFFECTING SMALL BUSINESS

Following are proposed rules of possible interest to small businesses published in the October 7, 2005 *Illinois Register*. During the 45-day comment period, individuals have an opportunity to express their support or opposition to the rule. To submit comments or to learn more about the proposed rules, contact Katy Khayyat at the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Entrepreneurship Network Information Center via e-mail at kkhayyat@ildceo.net or call (800) 252-2923 or (217) 785-8020.

The following proposed regulation will impact businesses that are required to obtain air pollution control construction permits:

The Pollution Control Board proposed an amendment for "Permits and General Provisions" (35 III. Adm. Code 201) to add 4 new categories to the list of exemptions from State air pollution control construction permit requirements. According to the Board, the rulemaking eliminates permitting delays for minor construction or modification projects that have little environmental or regulatory impact or when installation of certain air pollution control equipment may have significant environmental benefit. The four new permit exemption categories are for: (1) replacing or adding air pollution control equipment at existing emission units, (2) sources with federally enforceable state operating permits (FESOPs) that have low emission potential, (3) minor sources that are not Clean Air Act permit programs of FESOPs, and (4) "insignificant activities" categorized in this Part. Specific eligibility requirements and restrictions are provided.

Bottom Line: The proposed rulemaking will eliminate permitting delays for minor projects having little environmental or regulatory impact by adding four categories to the list of exemptions from State air permit requirements. For questions, contact Amy Antoniolli, 312-814-3665. To view a copy of the Board's Opinion and Order (refer to R-05-19), go to www.ipcb.state.il.us

Environmental Workshops for the Construction and Demolition Industry and Building Code Officials

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Small Business Environmental Assistance Program along with the Illinois EPA, Department of Public Health, Emergency Management Agency and industry co-sponsors will be holding ten workshops around the state in January -March 2006 to educate the construction industry and building code officials about requirements for asbestos, lead, radon, mold, and safety and health. In addition, participants will learn about the requirements of the new Illinois Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for alterations, repairs, additions, renovations and new construction of commercial buildings. The IECC requirements take effect April 8, 2006.

A \$25 nonrefundable fee will be charged to cover meal expenses. Workshops will be held from 8:30-4:30 on the following dates and locations:

January 31, 2006	John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL
February 1, 2006	Gateway Center, Collinsville, IL
February 8, 2006	Danville Area Community College, Danville, IL
March 1, 2006	Wilbur Wright Community College, Chicago, IL
March 7, 2006	Elgin Community College, Elgin, IL
March 8, 2006	McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL

^{*}Additional dates and locations are still being determined for Moline, Quincy, Bloomington, and Freeport and will be posted on www.ilbiz.biz as they are determined.

If you have questions or would like to register for one of the workshops, please contact the Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Help line at 800/252-3998, visit the website at www.ilbiz.biz or send an e-mail to sbeap@ildceo.net.

Technology Seminar

SouthernTECH is sponsoring a free lunch seminar as part of the SouthernTECH Fall Seminar Series. Funding technology development is not an easy task. This seminar will provide an overview into several funding approaches including federal R&D grants, strategic partnering, angel and venture capital, and out-licensing.

"Financing Technology Development & Commercialization" will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2005 from 12:00 – 1:30. This will be held at the Dunn-Richmond Economic Development Center on Pleasant Hill Road in Carbondale. There is no charge, but seating is limited. There will be a free box lunch for registered attendees. To register, e-mail tdrone@siu.edu, or call (618) 453-3804.

Illinois Recycling Grants Program

DCEO, Bureau of Energy and Recycling, is pleased to announce two separate grant opportunities. DCEO is accepting Requests for Applications (RFA) from qualified entities for Traditional Recyclables (fiber, plastic, metal and glass) and/or for Computers and Electronics Recycling. The purpose of these solicitations is to divert recyclable commodities from Illinois landfills by increasing the quantity of materials recycled in IL and the self-sufficiency of the recycling industry, as well as to establish permanent collection facilities, expand operations for processing computers and electronics equipment and for the removal and proper management of electronic components.

Grants are available to assist businesses and organizations with their recycling efforts. Traditional Recyclables grant funds may be used to purchase project-related capital equipment such as collection, processing, or handling equipment; project-related expansion and modernization costs; and the development and distribution of materials designed to promote and educate participants about the project. Computers and Electronics Recycling grant funds may be used to set up permanent drop-off and collection facilities; purchase recycling containers; site improvements; and purchase processing and handling project-related equipment to collect, refurbish, demanufacture, and recycle computers and electronic equipment.

Entities interested in submitting an application for Traditional Recyclables are encouraged to schedule and individual consultation with their regional DCEO representative by calling (217) 785-1997. Those interested in submitting a Computers and Electronics RFA should contact Sam Al-Basha at (217) 557-5662.

Green Building Training Workshops

The Capital Development Board, AIA-Illinois, ACED-Illinois and ISPE are co-hosting eight free training workshops throughout Illinois to increase awareness and understanding of energy-saving, environmentally-friendly "green" building techniques within the design and construction industries. Studies show that implementation of these principles result in more energy-efficiency and cost savings for building owners. The training workshops are schedules from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at sites throughout Illinois.

November 2 – Rockford, Northern Illinois University Center, 8500 E. Main Street, Room 215 December 9 – Chicago, Michael A. Bilandic Building, 160 N. LaSalle, Room C500 January 11 – Bloomington, Heartland Community College, 1500 West Raab Road, Room 1406 February 15 – Belleville, Southwestern Illinois College, 2500 Carlyle Avenue, SWIC Theater March 15 – Carbondale, Southern Illinois University Union, 1075 Lincoln Drive, Lawson Room

April 12 – Grayslake, College of Lake County, 19351 West Washington Street, RoomT326 May 18 – Springfield, University of Illinois, One University Plaza, Brookens Auditorium

Three professional development hours will be given for attendance as approved by AIA-Illinois, and ACED-Illinois. CDB will provide you with a receipt indicating your registration is on file.

For more information contact Windy Gerlach at wgerlach@cdb.state.il.us.

I Save RX Prescription Drug Program

Below you will find a link to information on the I-SaveRx Prescription Drug program. This program is another tool to assist businesses and employees if they do not have access to affordable prescription drug coverage. http://www.i-saverx.net/

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